4/25/70

Dear Students,

You are fortunate to have a teacher like Mr. Tuttle who tries to keep you informed about what goes on in the world and why it is important and how it comes to pass. Sometimes the information is limited and, when it comes from newspapers, limited to what the newspapers know or want to know.

There are also men in the world, unlike Mr. Tuttle, who do not seek truth but look intesc for what can serve their selfish interests. And there are others who have exalted ideas about themselves and convince themselves that what they seek for themselves also serves the common good. Such men often do much harm from what they consider to be good motives. Such a man, a man who seeks publicity for himself, is the man in the story aboutwhich you wrote, Sherman Skolnick. Part of what he said is true, the rest is made up. None of it is the result of his own work, for he has done no real investigations.

The part that is true has to do with the arrest of Vallee and what happened after he was arrested. Everything else is fiction, including the alleged resemblance between Oswald and Valle, etc. This part Skolnick got by playing a trick on a young man who was helping me in my work, to whom I had give the FBI reports mentioned in the story. They were not suppressed, as Mr. Skolnick said, by the National Archives, for that is wherexaIgot them! But all that is not, all that Mr. Skolnock did not imagine and then pretend is true, comes from one of the books I have not been able to get prtinted, part of which I read from whem I spoke in Brewster a year ago. Rather than helping, Mr. Skolnick hurts the establishment of truth, so important when a President is killed and when the government investigates it. One of the inevitable consequences is that his fictititious law suit will be thrown out of court, with big headlines that will pretend the government told the truth about the assassination when it did not, and the people will again be deceived. Meanwhile, other suits have been filed and will be filed, including by me. Belief in and trust in these will be undermined, especially because of the publicity Mr. Skolnick has gotten for himself. This makes one wonder if all that is involved is his love of publicity for himself.

It would be no trouble to find Vallee. Skolnick never tried. Thatis not the important thing today because he did not kill the President. This is why I never tried to find him, other things being more important. Not having seen the story available to you, I do not know what it said of the policeman Groth, but he did figure, secretly, in this arrest, as I did discover. All the other things Skolnick said about him are lies, and when Groth proved they were lies they made Groth look like a fine man, which I think he is not. He is responsible for the death of the Black Panther leader, Hampton, who was shot to death in his sleep. These lies about Groth and any possibility of investigating that and bringing out the truth about it.

I am sorry I do not have time for a longer answer to your letter. I think it is fine that you have this sincere interest in the more important affairs of our country. I hope you will always be this way. Thank you for writing and please give my best to Mr. Tuttle and my other friends in Brewster.

Sincerely,

Harold Weisberg